

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

GENERAL NOTES.

New name for a North American Squirrel.

In 1894 I described a subspecies of Abert's squirrel under the name of *Sciurus aberti concolor*.* My attention has recently been called to the fact that an Asiatic squirrel was given the specific name *concolor* by Blyth in 1855.† In order to prevent confusion I would propose that the sub-specific name of the American animal be changed to *ferreus*.—F. W. True.

The proper name of the Viscacha.

In 1897 Dr. T. S. Palmer (*Science*, N. S., VI, No. 131, pp. 21, 22, July 2, 1897) called attention to the fact that the then current generic name of the Viscacha, *Lagostomus* Brookes (1828) was antedated by *Vizcacia* Schinz (*circa* 1825), and that the specific name *trichodactylus* Brookes (1828) was antedated by *maximus* (*Dipus maximus* Desmarest, ex Blainville, Ms., 1817,) and therefore claimed that the proper name of the Viscacha was "*Vizcacia maxima* (Blainville)." Recently Mr. James A. G. Rehn (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., XIII, p. 166, Oct. 31, 1900) states that the specific name *maxima* is antedated by *Lepus viscaccia* Brandis (Ver-

*Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 17, 1894, No. 999, pp. (advance sheet issued April 26, 1894).

†Jour. Asiatic Soc. Bengal, new series, 24, No. 5, 1855, p. 474, footnote.

such einer Naturgeschichte von Chili, 1786, p. 272), overlooking the fact that this latter name originated with Molina, it appearing in the first (1782) edition of his 'Saggio sulla Storia Naturale del Chili,' p. 342, as *Lepus viscacia*. The name of the Viscacha should therefore be *Viscacia viscacia* (Molina). The authority for the specific name is hence Molina and not Brandis, and the name itself takes the form *viscaria* instead of *viscaccia*.—J. A. Allen.

A new *Helianthus* from Florida.*

Helianthus agrestis Pollard, n. sp.

Annual, rather freely branching, about one meter in height; stem many-striate or even sulcate, for the most part quite glabrous; peduncles slender, 1-flowered, hoary-pubescent near the heads, the pubescence gradually thinning below to a few scattered hairs; lower cauline leaves lanceolate, acuminate, 1.5 dm. long, tapering below to a short margined petiole, the margins remotely denticulate, hispid with short bristly hairs; blade with a prominent central nerve and two laterals springing from some distance above the base, both surfaces glabrous except along the primary nerve beneath; heads 5 to 6 cm. in diameter, the rays about 10 to 12, bright orange-yellow; involucral bracts lanceolate, attenuate, slightly scabrous, the margins sparsely ciliate; achenes narrowly oblong.

Type in the United States National Herbarium, Smithsonian Institution, (sheets Nos. 370175 and 370176) collected on shelly land between Lake Beresford and the St. Johns River, Volusia County, Florida, July 12, 1900, by A. H. Curtiss. The collector observes that the plant is tender and rather succulent, an unusual character among the species of *Helianthus*.

The new species had been previously collected by A. P. Garber in Levy and Manatee Counties in 1877. Mr. Merritt L. Fernald, of the Gray Herbarium, who had independently reached the conclusion that the plant was undescribed, courteously placed at my disposal the notes he had prepared, from which I quote the following: "Mr. Garber's plant was included by Dr. Gray in his *H. Floridanus*, but it is very distinct from that perennial species, which must rest upon Palmer's plant No. 283 of the 1874 collection, first cited by Dr. Gray,—a plant well matched by other specimens from Chapman and Curtiss, No. 1437."—Charles Louis Pollard.

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